

ABSTRACT

A locking component delivers and locks an attached medical device along a pre-deployed guide wire. The locking component can lock onto a flexible body member disposed on the guide wire, such as the distal helical tip coil of a conventional guide or a specially-designed guide wire. The locking component includes a tapered opening which temporarily compresses a portion of the helical coil and a locking recess in communication with the tapered opening for receiving the compressed coil. Compressed coils which enter the locking recess will spring back to their original shape (diameter) within the locking recess, locking the component to the coil.